

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel Claims 1-6 and 9-13 without prejudice to or disclaimer of subject matter.

Please amend Claims 7 and 8, and add new Claims 14 and 15 as follows.

1-6. (Cancelled)

7. (Currently Amended) ~~The block polymer according to claim 5, wherein the repeating unit is An amphiphilic block polymer comprising:~~

a hydrophilic block segment having a repeating unit structure represented by the general formula (4):

— (X') —

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O (AO) m B (D) n (COOR) p (4)

wherein:

X' represents a polyalkenyl group;

each A represents independently a linear or branched alkylene group of 1 to 15 carbon atoms which may be substituted;

m represents an integer of 0 to 30;

B represents a single bond or an alkylene group which may be substituted;

each D represents independently an aromatic ring in which at least one hydrogen atom attached to the ring is displaced by a fluorine atom;

n represents an integer of 1 to 10;

p represents 0 or 1; and

COOR represents a carboxylic acid ester, a carboxylic acid, or a salt of a carboxylic acid anion and a cation, and
a hydrophobic block segment.

8. (Currently Amended) ~~The block polymer according to claim 5~~ The amphiphilic block polymer according to claim 7, further comprising [[a]] another hydrophilic block segment and a hydrophobic block segment.

9-13. (Cancelled)

14. (New) The amphiphilic block polymer according to claim 7, wherein four of hydrogen atoms attached to the aromatic ring represented by D in the general formula (4) are each displaced by fluorine atoms.

15. (New) The amphiphilic block polymer according to claim 7, wherein the ~~hydrophobic block segment~~ has a repeating unit structure represented by the general formula (8):



wherein:

R^1 is selected from the group consisting of a linear, branched or cyclic alkyl groups of 1 to 18 carbon atoms, -Ph, -Pyr, -Ph-Ph, -Ph-Pyr, $-(\text{CH}(\text{R}^5)\text{---CH}(\text{R}^6)\text{---O})_p\text{---R}^7$, and $-(\text{CH}_2)_m\text{---}(\text{O})_n\text{---R}^7$, and hydrogen atom(s) in the aromatic ring may be replaced by linear or

branched alkyl group(s) of 1 to 4 carbon atoms, and carbon atom(s) in the aromatic ring may be replaced by nitrogen atom(s), wherein:

p represents an integer of 1 to 18;

m represents an integer of 1 to 36;

n represents 0 or 1;

each of R⁵ and R⁶ represents independently a hydrogen atom or -

CH₃; and

R⁷ is selected from the group consisting of a hydrogen atom, a linear, branched or cyclic alkyl group of 1 to 18 carbon atoms, -Ph, -Pyr, -Ph-Ph, -Ph-Pyr, -CHO, -CH₂CHO, -CO-CH=CH₂, -CO-C(CH₃)=CH₂ and CH₂COOR₈, and when R⁷ is other than a hydrogen atom, hydrogen atom(s) attached to carbon atom(s) in R⁷ may be replaced by a linear or branched alkyl group of 1 to 4 carbon atoms, -F, -Cl of -Br, and carbon atom(s) in the aromatic ring may be replaced by nitrogen atom(s), wherein:

R⁸ represents a hydrogen atom or an alkyl group of 1 to 5 carbon atoms;

Ph represents a phenyl group; and

Pyr represents a pyridyl group.